



# SMART LANDSCAPE REBATE PROGRAM



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### General Information

- Irrigation system must be in working condition.
- Project must not have started prior to pre-inspection.
- Funds for this program will be issued on a first come, first-served basis.
- When the upgrade is complete, staff will inspect the upgraded areas, and will review the importance of proper irrigation programming and sprinkler maintenance to ensure water savings.
- Performance based rebate program: project must result in a net reduction in total landscape water consumption for the site. We will review up to 5 years historical usage to determine eligibility.

### What is Covered?

- The program covers 50% of the material cost (not labor) for upgrades to approved irrigation systems and landscaping.
- **Irrigation Equipment:** pressure regulators, drip irrigation parts, sprinkler system efficiency retrofits, irrigation submeters, rotating sprinkler nozzles, and nozzles with 1” or less precipitation rate.
  - a. Matched precipitation rate sprinkler heads equipped with pressure reducing devices or check valves: standardizing all make and models within systems.
  - b. Drip irrigation equipment: converting existing spray equipment to drip. All drip components starting from the valve (but not including the valve) to include filter assembly, pressure regulator, tubing and emitters.
  - c. Rain shut-off devices: prevent irrigation during rainfall.
- **Water Wise Plants and Mulch:** plants must be classified as “low water using” or “drought tolerant.” Planted areas must be covered with a 3-inch layer of mulch.
- **Permeable Surfaces:** gravel mulch, cobbles up to 4”, flagstone or pavers with 4” permeable spacing.
- **Synthetic Turf:** turf carpeting, infill material, staples, and adhesives.
- **Smart Irrigation Controller:** must automatically adjust for weather changes. Must include one of the following: onsite weather module, soil moisture sensor, or satellite data subscription.
- **Pool Cover:** material cover and spool, must cover at least 85% of the pool’s surface area. 50% of the material cost (no labor), up to \$300 per site.

### What is Not Covered?

- Labor, tools, tax, dump fees, or delivery fees.
- Soil amendments, fertilizers, gopher baskets, bender board, weed cloth.
- Hardscape that is not permeable, including but not limited to: decomposed granite (DG), concrete, brick, and flagstone with less than 4 inch spacing or with DG fill.
- Retrofitting or replacing pipes of in-ground sprinkler systems.
- New landscaping for new development or new irrigation systems where there is not a current functioning system.
- Maintenance or repair of existing irrigation valves, heads, tubing, emitters etc.
- New controllers where there was not a previously installed irrigation controller.
- Synthetic turf: the rebate does not cover the ground prep, road base, gravel, DG, weed cloth, gopher wire or any other material other than the actual turf, infill material, staples, and adhesives.
- Pool covers: the rebate does not cover liquid pool covers or spa covers for stand-alone above ground spas.

### What Can I Put in My Parkway?

In order to sustain the health of street trees, parkways must only contain street trees, plants whose maximum height is less than 8 inches tall, and/or living ground cover (mulch). Concrete, asphalt, brick, gravel or otherwise filling up the ground area around any tree so as to substantially shut off air, light or water from its roots is not allowed. Applicants can apply for a permit from the Parks and Recreation Director if they would like to modify the parkway by other means. For more information please contact the Parks Division at (805) 564-5433.

For more information call (805) 564-5460 or visit [www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov/Rebates](http://www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov/Rebates)